

IN THE CLAIMS

1-13. Cancelled.

14. (Original) A center apparatus for recognizing contents described on a sheet to be processed, comprising:

a storage for storing image data of the sheet in the form of monochrome binary value image data and monochrome multi-value image data;

a recognizing unit for separating, from the image data in the storage, the monochrome binary image data as image data in a specification area to be recognized and for recognizing contents thereof according to the monochrome binary image data as image data separated; and

a display for displaying, for items necessary for recognition on the sheet, monochrome binary value image data stored in the storage and recognition data recognized by the recognizing unit in parallel with each other and for displaying, for items necessary for visual confirmation on the sheet, monochrome multi-value image data stored in the storage.

15. (Original) A center apparatus according to Claim 14, further including a definition information storage for storing

information of a definition of a specification area to be recognized in the image data in the storage; wherein

the recognizing unit separates, according to information set in the definition information storage, image data in a specification area to be recognized and recognizes contents at a particular position of the image data separated.

16. (Original) A center apparatus according to Claim 14, further including:

an input unit for receiving a correction input or a confirmation input for the recognition result displayed on the display;

an editing unit for editing, for each sheet, image data separated by the recognizing unit and the recognition result or the recognition result corrected; and

a sheet database for storing a result of the editing by the editing unit.

17. (Original) A center apparatus according to Claim 15, further including:

an input unit for receiving a correction input or a confirmation input for the recognition result displayed on the display;

an editing unit for editing, for each sheet, image data separated by the recognizing unit and the recognition result or the recognition result corrected; and

a sheet database for storing a result of the editing by the editing unit.

18-19. Cancelled.

20. (Original) An image reader for reading an image of a sheet, comprising:

a scanner for reading a sheet;

a processing unit for converting data of a seal of the image data read by the scanner into monochrome multi-value image data and for converting data thereof necessary for recognition into monochrome binary value image data; and

a transmitting unit for transmitting the monochrome multi-value image data and the monochrome binary value image data via a communication network.

21. Cancelled.